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10th August 2021

Email:

Dear,

I am writing in response to your enquiry under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) reference FOI 210630.

You requested the following information, please also see our response below:

Could you please provide information/figures recorded (for two time periods – firstly, between 1st January 2019 to 1st January 2020, and secondly between 1st January 2020 to 1st January 2021) on the following?

- 1. What was the total number of emergency calls/incidents attended that involved a skeletal fracture (whether confirmed or suspected by attending ambulance clinicians)?**

In 2019 there were 2,765 and 2020 there were 2,252.

- 2. What were the different types of immobilisation/treatment techniques (e.g. triangular bandage, splints, etc.) utilised by ambulance clinicians for these calls (please provide a breakdown by each type)?**

Type	*EPR Count
Bandage	65
Blanket	72
Carry chair	<10
Collar	<10
Headblocks	177
Scoop	594
Sling	20
Splint	27
Strap	12
Vacuum Mattress	482

*This is a count for electronic records only (30% of all records).

We are unable to retrieve an accurate breakdown of this data item for paper records.

3. What was the cost, per unit/item, of each immobilisation/treatment technique utilised by ambulance clinicians for suspected or confirmed fractures?

Please see below the cost of items per unit/item, of each immobilisation/treatment technique utilised by ambulance clinicians.

Description	Cost per unit
Bandage	£ 6.40
Blanket	£ 7.84
Carry chair	£ 1,323.00
Collar	£ 3.90
Headblocks	£ 36.33
Scoop	£ 719.88
Sling	£ 70.80
Splint	£ 98.90

4. What was the total number, if any, of patients experiencing a suspected or confirmed fracture whilst in the presence of ambulance clinicians (e.g. if the patient had a fall whilst being moved to the ambulance)?
None recorded

5. What is total number, if any were recorded, of patients with a suspected or confirmed fracture experiencing worsening fracture stability or discomfort/pain, whilst being conveyed to an emergency department?
None recorded

I hope you find this information of some assistance.

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with our response, kindly in the first instance contact Caroline Smart, Head of Information Governance via the following email address:

FOI@secamb.nhs.uk

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Coordinator
South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust**